For Immediate Release September 21, 2012 Contact: Rep. Penny Bernard Schaber 608-266-3070

Representative Penny Bernard Schaber Calls for Complete Audit of LogistiCare Contract in Wisconsin.

A group of 50 State Legislators join in letter requesting audit.

MADISON –Last year the company LogistiCare was chosen to run Wisconsin's Non-Emergency Medical Transportation (NEMT) program throughout the state. Since the original implementation of the contract in July of 2011 and since the recent expansion into Southeast Wisconsin on September 1st, there have been numerous complaints from users, transit providers and healthcare workers who have to work with LogistiCare on a daily basis.

"Upon talking with my constituents and hearing the problems that they were having with LogistiCare in the Fox Valley I did some research and found that these same problems were happening all over the State of Wisconsin," said Rep. Penny Bernard Schaber. "My colleagues across the state have heard similar stories from their constituents and I am very glad that they have joined me in signing this letter."

A bi-partisan group of 50 State Legislators from all corners of the state have joined Rep. Bernard Schaber (D-Appleton) in requesting an audit of the LogistiCare contract.

The contract is set up so that LogistiCare is paid by the state for the number of eligible participants in the program, the company pays the transit providers for the number of rides they complete, and the remainder is kept as a profit for LogistiCare. Instead of providing necessary transportation, not providing rides and disqualifying eligible riders appears to become an incentive for LogistiCare.

"Last year Governor Walker set up the Waste, Fraud, and Abuse Elimination Taskforce to look into fraudulent use of state benefits by individuals, that is a laudable goal." Rep. Bernard Schaber stated. "We should also be watching for fraudulent use of private contracts the state has with service providers. The contract with LogistiCare seems to be set up to encourage misuse and abuse by the company rather than providing appropriate and necessary rides to medical appointments."

"I hope that my colleagues on the Joint Legislative Audit Committee will act quickly to initiate an audit of this program. It is our duty to our constituents to make sure that state contracts are implemented in an open and transparent manner, and that they are administered in an appropriate fashion while providing the promised services. I hope that this audit will help bring to light the many issues that have arisen with the LogistiCare contract and help resolve these serious concerns," said Rep. Bernard Schaber.

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